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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone/Western Zones)/Switzerland

DATE DISTR. 26 September 1951

SUBJECT Activities of DAHA

NO. OF PAGES 1

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PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO. [REDACTED]SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1AX

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1. The foodstuffs section of DAHA (Deutscher Aussenhandel) maintains business connections with Watrag A.G. Zurich, and Uhl, Mayer & Co. A.G., Allschwil, Switzerland. During the first six months of 1951, the following procedure was used in shipping goods to the Soviet Zone of Germany. On presentation of the shipping documents by DAHA, Watrag A.G. opened a letter of credit and, paying in Swiss currency, purchased in Western Germany for DAHA various commodities which were forbidden to be exported to the Soviet Zone of Germany. When these commodities arrived at the Swiss border, the receiving agent immediately redeclared them as Swiss transit goods destined for the Soviet Zone of Germany. The commodities thus reached the Soviet Zone, although the Swiss letter of credit expressly stipulated that none of the goods be exported from Switzerland.
2. Forwarding firms in Western Germany which are working in the interests of the Soviet Zone of Germany include Barth u. Sohn * and Bertling**, both in Hamburg, and Dressler * in Bremen. *
3. During the first three months of 1951, DAHA-Foodstuffs, was required to deliver 4,000 tons of sugar to the DEAG *** on orders of Rasnoexport in Moscow. DEAG is said to have bought electrolytic copper in Switzerland to exchange for this sugar on a barter basis. Immediately upon receipt, DEAG shipped the copper to the Berlin agency of Rasnoexport. DEAG, which, with the help of its political connections, is able to effect all types of illegal transactions, is now procuring nonferrous metals.
4. The China Export Corporation is said to have bought wheat in Canada which was shipped to Hamburg from where it was resold to the Soviet Zone of Germany in a barter transaction.

25X1A * [REDACTED] Comment: Not further identified.

25X1A ** [REDACTED] Comment: The F. Bertling firm at 36 Klosterstrasse, Hamburg 1, which is owned by Consul Heinemeier (fmu), and Willy Andreas, has been repeatedly mentioned in connection with illegal East-West commercial transactions. Previous information on such a transaction was contained in [REDACTED] 25X1A

25X1A *** [REDACTED] Comment: According to a newspaper dispatch dated 23 June 1951, DEAG was liquidated. Its previous office houses the Berlin Warenverkehrsgesellschaft Ltd, a new establishment.

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